Special Issue

Environmental Impact of Mining: Soil and Water Contamination

Message from the Guest Editors

The mining sector and associated smelting and metal processing industries contribute significantly to economic growth and development in many countries worldwide. However, despite their contributions to income generation, employment, economic growth, and development, mining and related activities equally contribute to disrupting the cycling of metals in the surface environment, leading to major pollution problems. Mining minerals produces significant quantities of waste materials enriched with toxic heavy metals (Pb, Cd, Hg, As, etc.) and radioactive waste, greatly impacting on the surrounding environment. This Special Issue aims to collate the latest research on the extension of soil and water contamination due to mining activities to enhance our understanding of the dynamics inherent to leaching, transport, and accumulation of some potential toxic elements and the environmental relevance of these phenomena. Articles may cover, but are not limited to, the following areas: Soil and water contamination in mining sites Current and/or emerging health issues/ biological hazards of mine waste contamination Possible remedial measures to treat contaminated sites

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 September 2023)

Minerals

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.2
CiteScore 4.4

mdpi.com/si/163884

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Mining and Mineral Processing) / CiteScore - Q1 (Geology)

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 17.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).

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